

Checklist for Reading Aloud

Read Aloud:

- ☐ Familiarize yourself with the book prior to reading
- ☐ Introduce the book: title, author, subject
- ☐ Pre Reading (Frontloading): give background information about the topic and author
- ☐ Ask questions about the topic to activate prior knowledge
- ☐ Share an academic goal for reading
- ☐ Make connections with youth's academic experiences and personal experiences before and during reading
- ☐ Provide a way for youth to respond to key vocabulary or academic goal
- ☐ Define or clarify important words before and during reading
- ☐ Use strategies that engage youth (voices, sounds, movement, pauses, read at an appropriate pace)
- ☐ Point out pictures and other graphics when appropriate to enhance comprehension

Book Discussion:

- ☐ Time set-aside for discussion of book
 - > The group doesn't move on as soon as the book is over. They spend time talking about the book.
- ☐ An interactive simple retell of the book is included
 - > 1-3 sentences about what happened in the story.
- ☐ Discuss sequencing (beginning, middle and end)
 - > Youth are given an opportunity to respond.
- ☐ Provide opportunities to make and share connections
 - > What did the story remind you of?
- ☐ Focus on essential story elements: characters, setting, problem, solution
- ☐ Reference the pictures and/or passages that relate to the discussion
- ☐ Ask questions about cause and effect ("why did this character do this...?")
- ☐ Use pictures and text to guide inferences
 - > How can we use the pictures and words to find out more about the story?
- ☐ Ask open ended questions that facilitate higher order thinking skills
 - > More than just 'yes' or 'no' or other one word answers
- ☐ Discuss author's purpose
 - > What did we get out of reading the story?